



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

MAURICE COVINO APPOINTED TO VICE PRESIDENT OF SPIRE SOLAR EQUIPMENT

To Lead Spire Solar Sales Activities

Bedford, Massachusetts—December 12, 2000—Spire Corporation (NASDAQ:SPIR), which provides photovoltaic module manufacturing products and services to the solar electric industry worldwide, announced today that Mr. Maurice Covino, the Assistant General Manager of Spire Solar, has been appointed Vice President of Spire Solar Equipment. In this position, he will be responsible for managing Spire's day-to-day sales, engineering, and manufacturing operations, and continuing the Company's dedication to excellence in equipment manufacturing.

Mr. Covino, a Harvard graduate, joined Spire in 1998 from Ripley Company of Cromwell, Connecticut, a privately owned manufacturer, where he held the position of General Manager. He has brought to the Spire management team strong experience in global business development, strategic marketing, sales, and business planning. Part of this experience was gained during three years as President of SAE, a manufacturing company in Amboise, France.

Steve Hogan, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Spire Solar said, "Maurice is a valuable asset to Spire's Solar Division. He has increased our sales and demonstrated his capabilities in operational management during his time at Spire. He has consistently assessed our customer's requirements, and found the means to meet these requirements. His promotion will allow me to focus more effort on Spire's new business development. We look forward to Maurice's continued contributions to Spire and the Industry."

Spire Corporation is the world's leading supplier of photovoltaic manufacturing equipment, turnkey production lines and solar energy businesses.

Visit our web site at www.spirecorp.com.

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